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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Federal Republic)

SUBJECT Berlin Social Democrats Favor  
SED Proposals

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1. The Berlin Social Democratic organization is considering acceptance of the SED (German Socialist Unity Party) proposal to set up a provisional government first, composed of both the Deutsche Demokratische Republik and the Bonn government which would prepare and later call general elections throughout East and West Germany. The Berlin Social Democrats were much impressed by the declaration of Nuschke that if the uprising of 17 June had been successful, there would have been war between the USSR and the United States. Nuschke claimed to have received this information from Marshal Bulganin and Marshal Sokolovsky, his deputy, when he was in Moscow recently.
2. The Berlin Social Democrats accept the idea of a provisional government because it would make Berlin the de facto capital of Germany during the process of unification, and therefore enhance the importance of the Berlin Social Democratic organization. The Berlin Social Democrats are now urging their own Parteivorstand in Bonn to reconsider its official policy and to find techniques for bringing about Germany's unification. Since similar tendencies are discernible in several locales in West Germany, the Parteivorstand dispatched Herbert Wehner to Berlin to explain at a meeting of the Social Democratic functionaries (on 8 Jan) its unchanged stand towards free elections. Wehner's speech, however, was strong in words and weak in content for he did not specify how the free elections are to be called, thus leaving the door open for a provisional caretaker government to carry out that task in both zones.

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